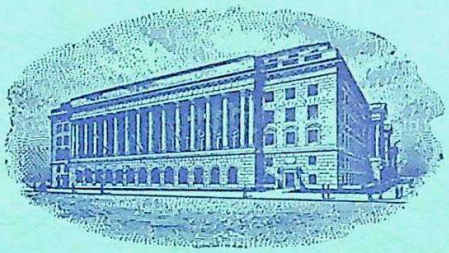
Patent Office Society

Dedicated to the improvement and appreciation of the United States patent system



ANNUAL REPORTS

1959

ANNUAL REPORTS

of the

PRESIDENT
COMMITTEES
TREASURER

and

BUSINESS MANAGER

OF THE *JOURNAL*

1959

Officers

President

Milton O. Hirshfield (26)

Vice-President

Charles Gareau (22)

Secretary

Madeline Cosby (1)

Treasurer

Mildred Ditto (T.M.I.)

Executive Committee

Group 1

Donald Levy (43)
Anthony Sciamanna (59)

Group 2

Walter Carlson (48)

Group 3

John B. Maier (21)
Lutrelle F. Parker (2)

Group 4

W. F. O'Dea (39)
L. W. Varner, Jr. (62)

Group 5

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Davis T. Moorehead (40)

Group 6

Arthur LaPoint (45)

Group 7

Robert F. White (15)

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Irving J. Rotkin (93)
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Group 12

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Ex-Officio

Laurence Efner (9)

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE PRESIDENT

The year 1959 saw the Society expand its field of operation. In the interests of the Society's objectives, which are to work toward the improvement and appreciation of the patent system, a program has been established by which such objectives may be attained. With this in mind, the following policies have been adopted:

First, the expansion of the membership to include those who practice before the Office by establishing an associate membership in the Society. It is hoped that such a membership will result in more of an understanding between examiner and attorney. The Society could well serve as a common meeting ground for discussing mutual problems. We are looking forward to suggestions from our associate members as to ways of accomplishing this result.

Second, sponsorship of an annual scholarship at George Washington University to be administered by the Patent, Trademark and Copyright Foundation of the University for the purpose of providing "financial assistance to those scholars, practitioners and other students who may potentially contribute to original research in the patent and trademark systems, and the patent and trademark law." The resolution concerning this scholarship was fully reported in the Journal, October 1959, page 694. Dr. O. S. Colclough, Director of the Foundation, expressed very aptly his sentiments in his response upon receipt of the resolution. In part, he declared:

> "We sincerely appreciate the interest of the Patent Office Society in our undertaking, as evidenced by the resolution and the contribution. It is through the support, both financial and intellectual, of interested persons that the Patent, Trademark and Copyright Foundation can be assured of achieving its objectives . . . It is hoped, as you so well put it, that this resolution will serve as an incentive to other groups whose aims, as those of the Society, are devoted to the improvement of the Patent System."

Also, Commissioner Watson expressed his sentiments in a letter regarding the resolution. He declared:

> "The Patent, Trademark and Copyright Foundation is an institution which, as you know, was sponsored by the Patent Law Association and supported by many others. Its objectives are most worthy and it is performing functions which are not performed by any other body in the United States. Unfortunately, it does not have sufficient funds to accomplish all of its objectives, despite the breadth of its support, and I am sure that the contribution of the Society will be received most gratefully by the officers of the Foundation and that they will be heartened and encouraged by the fact that the Society has seen fit to extend a helping hand."

Third, the establishing of a group insurance plan. Since membership in the Society is now well over a thousand, we were able to employ the services of Mutual of Omaha to set up a special plan of health and accident insurance by which members would be able to secure such insurance at very reasonable premium rates. The response to this plan has been most gratifying.

The Society contemplates further use of the Journal as a means of membership communication. I have requested those whose reports appear below to briefly outline the activities of their committees for the year.

All the accomplishments of the last year by the Society would not have been possible had it not been for the splendid cooperation of all those of the various committees. I take this opportunity to sincerely thank all of you.

MILTON O. HIRSHFIELD

President.

Constitution Committee

In response to a suggestion by a group of Society members, the Constitution Committee submitted to the Executive Committee, at a meeting held on November 24, 1959, a proposal to amend Article 4, Section 5, of the Constitution

to (1) provide that names of nominees for elective position be listed on election ballots in order determined by lot rather than alphabetically; and (2) delete the provision that ballots be delivered to each member to correspond to the official location of each member. Both of the proposed changes were approved by the Executive Committee and by the membership of the Society.

The effect of the first change is obvious. The second change preserves the recently adopted representation on the Executive Committee by supervisory groups rather than by grades, but makes it possible for each active member to vote for representatives from all groups.

A. L. LAPOINT

Member, Constitution Committee.

Legislative Committee

The Legislative Committee, in close cooperation with our Legislative Counsel, Dillard B. Lasseter, has continued to supply information to Congress bearing on legislation involving the Patent System and the Patent Office.

Our most important success was enactment of Senate Bill 1845 into Public Law 86-370 in September 1959. The Bill provides major salary increases for members of the Board of Appeals to levels more commensurate with their duties. An important possible incidental benefit affects the previous "ceiling" on examiners' salaries. Raising of this ceiling, especially for Primary and Assistant Primary Examiners, could aid greatly the stability and consequent effectiveness of the examining corps by increasing the career incentive of work in the Patent Office. It is expected that the raised ceiling will be already in effect when this report appears.

Members and Committees of Congress continue to seek and welcome from the Society information concerning appropriations and other Patent Office matters. The tree of better understanding between the Society and Congress is bearing abundant fruit.

The Committee is keeping an "eagle eye" trained upon future legislation affecting the Patent System. Such legislation involves fee changes pending before a House Committee. Also, legislation "closer to home" is pending before Congress and advocates that standardization of in-grade raises for examiners be set at twelve months for all grades.

HAROLD B. WHITMORE
Chairman.

Membership Committee

The membership of the Society for the year 1959 totalled 868 members, of which 568 subscribed to the Journal. This represents a small decrease from the 1958 membership, which may have been the result of the increase of $1.00 in the cost of the Journal. The new policy of providing for associate membership for those in the patent profession but not employed in the Patent Office has produced about 250 associate members.

Many thanks to the members of my committee for their excellent cooperation and assistance.

F. T. GARRETT
Chairman.

Social Committee

The Social Committee is pleased to report that the outstanding social function of the year was the annual spring dinner-dance held on April 4, 1959 in the Terrace Room of the Shoreham Hotel. It was well attended by the membership and friends, including Honorable Jennings Randolph, Senator, West Virginia, Commissioner of Patents Robert C. Watson, Commissioner Arthur W. Crocker, and Commissioner Maurice A. Crews. Judges Eugene Worley, Giles S. Rich and Noble J. Johnson of the United States Court of Customs and Patent Appeals, Dr. O. S. Colclough, President of The George Washington University, Elwin A. Andrus, Chairman, Section of Patent, Trademark and Copy-

right Law of the American Bar Association, and Dillard B. Lasseter, Representative Counsel of the Patent Office Society also attended as our guests.

The fall event was held on November 11, 1959 by a visit to the Martin Company in Baltimore, Maryland. The morning session was devoted to scientific developments as well as the achievements of the Space Flight Division and the Nuclear Division of the Martin Company. The afternoon tour of the plant was extended by popular demand in order that the members would be afforded enough time to see more of the plant's facilities. The interests of our members in participating in this plant tour is especially significant, especially as it pertains to new technical developments in various scientific fields of endeavor. Our appreciation is extended to those who have given their own time to participate in this event in order to keep closely abreast of scientific advancements.

Our sincere vote of thanks goes to the members of the Social Committee.

T. STREULE, JR.
Chairman.

PATENT OFFICE SOCIETY

Statement of Financial Operations for 1959

Receipts:			
Membership dues and Journal subscriptions		$ 3,587.50	
Associate memberships	$ 502.00		
Less cost of processing	131.14	370.86	
Interest:			
Capital City Savings & Loan Assn.	215.22		
Patent Office Federal Credit Union	178.92		
U. S. Treasury 2½% Bond	37.50	431.64	$ 4,390.00
Disbursements:			
Representative Counsel		1,800.00	
Dinner Dance Expenses	2,140.85		
Less ticket sales	1,300.00	840.85	
Printing, Engraving, etc.		614.80	
Recreation Association		300.00	
Education		223.80	
Flowers in Memoriam		49.81	
Miscellaneous		47.20	3,876.46
Net profit for 1959			$ 513.54

STATEMENT OF ASSETS

Assets:	12/31/58	12/31/59	Increase	Decrease
Second National Bank	$ 820.55	$ 939.95	$ 119.40	
Capital City Savings & Loan Assn.	5,500.92	5,716.14	215.22	
Patent Office Federal Credit Union	4,491.44	4,670.36	178.92	
U. S. Treasury 2½% Bond	1,500.00	1,500.00	—	
	$12,312.91	$12,826.45	$ 513.54	

MILDRED G. DITTO

Treasurer.

REPORT OF THE BUSINESS MANAGER OF THE JOURNAL

RECEIPTS

From Subscribers:		
For arrears	$ 5.75	
For 1959 subscriptions	11,325.95	
Advance payments	3,276.86	
Total		$14,608.56
From Advertisers:		
For arrears	1,068.75	
For 1959 advertising	5,286.47	
Total		6,355.22
From Sale of Single Copies:		
Back issues	437.40	
1959 copies	192.74	
Miscellaneous publications	8.10	
Total		638.24
Collected for associate memberships	500.00	500.00
From miscellaneous:		
Money collected for binding	48.00	48.00
Total Receipts		$22,150.02
Adjusted bank balance Dec. 31, 1958:		
Arlington Trust Co.	6,057.57	
Federalsburg Post Office Account:		
Balance Dec. 31, 1958	88.40	
Cash on hand Dec. 31, 1958	4.90	
Total		6,150.87
TOTAL		$28,300.89

DISBURSEMENTS

For printing Journal	$10,789.35	
For paper	3,913.85	
For postage and express	258.71	
For Federalsburg postage	252.26	
Compensation and expense for staff	2,690.00	
Binding for members	72.00	
Stationery and miscellaneous	803.51	
Money paid to Patent Office Society Treasurer for associate memberships	500.00	
Total		19,279.68
Adjusted bank balance Dec. 31, 1959:		
Arlington Trust Co.	8,856.12	
Federalsburg Post Office Account:		
Balance Dec. 31, 1959	161.14	
Cash on hand Dec. 31, 1959	3.95	
Total		9,021.21
TOTAL		$28,300.89

Analysis of 1959 Journal Operations

Receipts:		
From subscriptions for 1959 Journal:		
Payments prior to 1959	$ 2,891.75	
Membership subscriptions	1,420.00	
Payments during 1959	11,325.95	
Total		$15,637.70
From advertisers:		
Payments during 1959		5,286.47
From sale of Single Copies		192.74
Total Receipts		$21,116.91
Expenditures:		
Printing (12 issues)	10,789.35	
Cost of paper 1959 Journal	4,150.00	
Postage and express	258.71	
Federalsburg postage	252.26	
Compensation and expense for staff	2,690.00	
Stationery and miscellaneous	803.51	
Transferred to General Treasury	1,420.00	
Total Expenditures		$20,363.83
Surplus		$ 753.08
Arrears Collected		
For advertising	$ 1,068.75	
For subscriptions	5.75	
For single copies, back issues	437.40	
Miscellaneous receipts	8.10	
Total		$ 1,520.00
TOTAL BALANCE (surplus)		$ 2,273.08

For December 1959 there were 3771 names on the Journal mailing list. This compares with 3863 in 1958 and 3768 in 1957. Of this number in 1959, 568 were members of the Society. This compares with 685 members of the Society subscribing to the Journal in 1958.

The Analysis of 1959 Journal Operations indicates a surplus of $2,273.08. It is expected that this surplus will allow sufficient slack to absorb small cost increases so that our present rates can be maintained.

ARTHUR M. HORTON

Business Manager.

Committees for 1959

Auditing

E. R. Reynolds, Ch. (42)
R. G. Nilson (54)

Election

Michael Balas, Ch. (29)
Davis T. Moorehead (40)
Mildred Ditto (T.M.I.)

Legislative

H. Whitmore, Ch. (55)
J. Farmakides (93)
Dillard B. Lasseter, Legislative Counsel

Membership

F. Garrett, Ch. (40)
N. Hahn (Bd. App.)
W. Penn (17)
A. Horton (10)
T. Streule, Jr. (32)
A. LaPoint (45)
T. Shear (12)
T. Eager (14)
J. Luckett (Class.)
E. Lemp (T.M.I.)

Revision of Constitution

Michael Balas, Ch. (29)
Anthony Sciamanna (59)
Arthur LaPoint (45)

Social

T. Streule, Jr., Ch. (32)
R. Rothermel (Pers.)
O. Meegan (59)
R. Friedman (94)
V. Peruzzi (19)
D. Moorehead (40)
Grace King (Search Rm.)
Dorothy Mockabee (43)

Insurance

Mildred Ditto (T.M.I.)
Irving J. Rotkin (93)
Davis T. Moorehead (40)

Publicity

L. F. Parker, Ch. (2)
Madeline Cosby (1)
Laurence Efner (9)